

Appln. No. 10/645,683
Amendment dated October 21, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed July 21, 2005

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 through 10 and 12 through 19 remain in this application. Claims 11 and 20 have been cancelled. No claims have been withdrawn. Claim 21 has been added.

Paragraph 3 of the Office Action

Paragraph 3 of the Office Action states that claims 3, 5, 11, 13, and 20 would be allowable if written into independent form with the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The above amendment incorporates the limitations of claim 11 into the recitation of claim 9, and therefore claim 9 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claims 10, and 12 through 17, by virtue of their dependency from amended claim 9, are also submitted to be in condition for allowance.

The above amendment incorporates the limitations of claim 20 into the recitation of claim 18, and therefore claim 18 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Claim 19, by virtue of their dependency from amended claim 18, are also submitted to be in condition for allowance.

Paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Office Action

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6 through 11, 12, and 14 through 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Vier et al. (Patent 6,337,793) (hereinafter referred to as "Vier").

Claim 1, particularly as amended, requires "wherein the securing device is configured so that closing the cover automatically causes the securing device to engage the accepted electronic component" and "wherein the securing device is biased toward a position that disengages the securing device from the accepted electronic component such that opening the cover

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releases the securing device from engagement with the accepted electronic component".

The rejection of these claims is based upon the Vier patent, which shows a door that swings upwardly and downwardly, and has a retaining member (20) on the door that inserts into the device when the door swings downwardly. However, if the door is biased in any direction, the effect of gravity biases the door into the downward position in which the retaining member (20) is inserted into the device, so any biasing of the member 20 *causes* the engagement of the member 20 with the device, rather than tending to disengage the member 20 from the device. This is in direct conflict with the requirement of claim 1 that "the securing device is biased toward a position that disengages the securing device from the accepted electronic component", as the only possible means for biasing the retaining member 20--gravity acting on the door--would tend to cause engagement, not release.

It is therefore submitted that the Vier patent would not lead one of ordinary skill in the art to the applicant's claimed invention as defined in claim 1, especially with the requirements set forth above, and therefore it is submitted that claim 1 is allowable over the prior art. Further, claims 2, 4, and 6 through 8, which depend from claim 1, also include the requirements discussed above and therefore are also submitted to be in condition for allowance.

Withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, and 6 through 8 is therefore respectfully requested.

Added claim 21 requires, in part, "a securing device mounted to at least one of the frame and the cover, the securing device being movable between an engaging position wherein the securing device is capable of engaging the electronic component when the component is accepted in the

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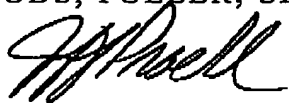
frame, and a releasing position wherein the securing device is capable of releasing the electronic component when the component is accepted in the frame" and "wherein the securing device is biased toward the releasing position". It is submitted for the reasons set forth above that the Vier patent would not lead one of ordinary skill in the art to the requirements of claim 21.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early reconsideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: Oct 21, 2005

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